

# THE PUNTA GORDA HERALD.

VOLUME X.

PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA, APRIL 25, 1902.

NO. 16

## FLORIDA STATE DIRECTORY

Governor—W. S. Jennings.  
Secretary of State—H. Clay Crawford.  
Comptroller—A. C. Croom.  
Attorney-General—Wm. B. Lamar.  
Treasurer—J. B. Whitfield.  
Superintendent of Education—W. N. Sims.  
Commissioner of Lands—H. E. Meade.  
Adjutant-General—J. C. Foster.  
United States Senators—Stephen B. Mallory and J. P. Tallaferra.  
Representatives—B. M. Sparkman and R. W. Davis.

### DeSoto County Directory.

Judge Circuit Court—Jos. B. Wall.  
Clerk Circuit Court—H. E. Carlton.  
Sheriff—T. E. Fielder.  
Tax Collector—J. B. Sandlin.  
Tax Assessor—F. M. Cooper.  
Treasurer—F. E. Parker.  
County Judge—A. E. Poozer.  
Superintendent of Schools—M. F. Giddens.  
Representative—R. E. Brown.

### Punta Gorda Directory.

Mayor—A. C. Freeman.  
Marshall—J. H. Bowman.  
Clerk and Assessor—W. B. Hardee.  
Collector—Chas. Smith.  
Treasurer—W. A. Roberts.  
Justice of the Peace—W. B. Hardee.  
Council meets in regular session on the first Tuesday of each month.

Arrivals and Departures of Mails.  
Northern Mail—Arrives 9:30 p. m. & 12:15 a. m. daily; departs 1:30 p. m. & 7:05 a. m. daily.  
South Bound—Leaves Punta Gorda by boat for St. James, Sanibel, Punta Rassa and Myers at 7 a. m. daily except Sunday; returning arrives at 3 p. m.  
Grove City and Englewood—Departs daily by boat at 7 a. m.; arrives at 2 p. m.  
Charlotte Harbor and Harbor View—Departs daily by boat at 7 a. m.; arrives at 2:15 p. m.

JOSIEA MIRELL, Postmaster

### Churches and Societies.

Episcopal Church, Rev. T. J. Purdie, rector. Services at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. on the first and third Sundays; Sunday school at 3:30 o'clock each Sunday afternoon.  
Presbyterian—Rev. C. H. Ferran, pastor. Services second and fourth Sundays at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday school every Sunday afternoon at 3:30. Prayer meeting 7:30 p. m. Thursdays.  
Methodist—Rev. H. W. Joiner, pastor. Services at 7 p. m. every Sunday and at 11 a. m. on the first and third Sundays at the Punta Gorda church; Sunday school every Sunday 10 a. m.; prayer meeting Wednesday evening of each week. Epworth League meets every Sunday 3:30 p. m. Charlotte Harbor Methodist church—Services at 7 p. m. on second and fourth Sundays and at 7 p. m. on Saturdays previous.

Punta Gorda Baptist Church—Rev. J. E. McIntosh, pastor. Services every Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday school at 10 a. m. every Sunday. Prayer meeting every Tuesday night.  
Seventh-day Adventist Sabbath school 10 a. m. preaching 3 p. m. and 7 p. m. Bible study Wednesday 7 p. m. C. B. Stephenson, Elder.  
Y. P. S. C. E.—Meets every Tuesday evening in the Presbyterian church at 7:30.

Masonic—Punta Gorda Lodge No. 115, F. & A. M. Meets on Friday before second Saturday of each month in Masonic hall. J. M. Samuel, W. M. R. L. Earnest, Sec.  
Pythian—Tarpon Lodge No. 39, K. of P. Meets on Wednesday night of each week in Masonic hall. H. E. Blakely, G. C.; A. Roe, K. of H. & S.

Woodmen of the World—DeSoto Camp No. 19. Meets in Masonic hall second and fourth Thursdays. A. K. Demore, G. C.

Punta Gorda Business Directory.  
A. Roe—Wholesale and Retail Hay, Grain, Fertilizers, etc.  
Mrs. A. Roe—Manager Hotel Dade.  
W. H. Burdett—Physician and Surgeon.  
A. F. Dewey—Owner and operator Charlotte Harbor Lighterage and Stevedores Co.  
Jas. H. Farlington—Insurance.  
M. V. Williams—Cashier Punta Gorda Bank.

The Earnest Dry Goods Co.—Dry Goods, shoes, Gent's Furnishings.  
A. C. Freeman—Hardware and furniture.  
J. W. Booth—Agent Plant System.  
J. R. Elliott—Dry Goods and Notions.  
R. K. Seward—Groceries, Shoes, Hats, etc.  
Gent's Furnishings, Hardware, and Paints.  
Geo. T. Brown & Co.—Wholesale Fish and Oysters.

A. W. Gilchrist—Real Estate, Insurance.  
Punta Gorda Market and Ship Supply Co.—Meats, vegetables, produce and Groceries.  
Southernland Bros.—Produce and Groceries.

J. Jack, City Bakery.  
Wm. Crouch—Real Estate.  
T. O'R. Jameson—Fruits, confections, etc.  
H. J. Spence and I. H. Trabue—Attorneys.  
McLane & Oliver—Hardware, Groceries.  
Jas. A. Newsome—Groceries and Produce.  
J. B. Cox—Fruit, confections, cigars, tobacco, cool drinks, etc.

W. A. Roberts—Druggist.  
J. L. Sandlin—Real Estate.  
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## DEATH'S HARVEST.

**MRS. HOBSON AND MESSRS. CUSHING AND SWIFT ARE NO MORE.**

Our community has had a sad visitation. In one day three well known and highly respected people passed over the river.

Just before noon Saturday, Mr. Joseph H. Cushing was drowned in Alligator Creek four miles south of town. At 11 p. m. the same day, Mrs. J. C. Hobson died, and at 7 p. m. the next morning Mr. J. H. Swift passed away.

Mr. Cushing's place lies along both sides of the creek, which is spanned by a foot-log. He had gone across the creek Saturday morning to do some work and was evidently on his way back when he lost his life. He was subject to epileptic attacks; and it is supposed that he was seized by one of them when he was walking along the foot-log on his return and fell into the water. His body was accidentally found by Messrs. Jas. M. Morgan and Chas. Holley, who were fishing. It was lying in water about a foot deep with the face down.

Appearances indicated that he had been in the water two or three hours; nevertheless, every effort was made by a skilled nurse and others to resuscitate him; but without avail. Dr. Burland was sent for; and on arriving said that everything possible had been done and there was no hope.

Relatives of the deceased in the north were notified by wire and the body was held until Tuesday in the hope that some of them could come and be present at the funeral; but as none of them could come, the burial was made in the city cemetery Tuesday morning. The services were conducted by Rev. H. W. Joiner, of the Methodist church, and a large concourse of friends was present.

Mr. Cushing was perhaps the first white settler of this section. He came here from Rhode Island thirty years ago and settled on Alligator creek, where he had ever since resided. He planted an orange grove and built up a valuable property.

About 1882 he married Miss Lizzie, a daughter of Mr. Talbert Morgan who settled on the creek a year or two after Mr. Cushing. They had no children and, saving a large circle of friends, the widow alone is left to mourn his loss. To her the sympathies of many friends are extended.

Mr. Cushing was about 55 or 57 years old. He was widely known and generally respected throughout this region and he will be greatly missed by the many who had become attached to him.

Mrs. J. C. Hobson, after a lingering illness from consumption peacefully passed away at 11 p. m. Saturday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. E. A. White, in this city. Her home was in Cleveland, but shortly before her death she was seized with an impulse to visit her daughter and accordingly came here, when the final summons overtook her.

She was born in Buena Vista, Ga., Jan. 12th, 1862, and married W. A. Cottle in Andalusia, Ala., Nov. 18th, 1877. This union was blessed with one offspring, Mrs. Willie A. White, now the wife of E. A. White, of this city.

Oct. 1st, 1878, she was left a widow, and in 1882 removed with her parents from Georgia to Maitland, Fla. Subsequently, in 1885, the family came to Cleveland, where Mrs. Cottle met Jno. Cary Hobson and, on Jan. 6th, 1888, married him.

This proved to be a very happy union and was blessed with seven children, one of whom died in infancy. Of the rest ranging in age from one year to sixteen, there are two pairs of twins. Thus, besides the disconsolate husband, seven children are left to mourn her loss.

She joined the Baptist church in childhood and was a consistent Christian all her life. She died in the full assurance of a blessed resurrection.

The funeral services were held by Rev. J. E. McIntosh, pastor of the Baptist church, at Mr. White's residence, after which the body was laid to rest in the cemetery beside the beautiful Pineapple creek. Besides kindred, many sorrowing friends were present at the last sad rites.

The bereaved husband and children in their hour of affliction, have the sincere sympathy of a wide circle of friends.

Mrs. Hobson's mother, Mrs. S. A. Johnson, of Tampa, was with her daughter in her last illness and now remains to comfort her bereaved children.

THE DEATH OF MR. SWIFT was a shock to the whole community. Saturday morning, he was in his usual health, attending to his business and chatting pleasantly with passing friends. At noon, he spoke of not feeling well, but partook of a light dinner. Then he lay down to rest a moment and within an hour became so ill that Dr. Lanier was summoned. The doctor found him suffering from congestion of the bow-

els and did all that he could for him. As the patient grew rapidly worse, Dr. Samuel was called in consultation and both physicians exerted their best skill, but to no avail.

The congestion ascended to the brain and, in spite of all that loving hearts and medical science could do, Mr. Swift continued to sink and at 7 o'clock Sunday morning he breathed his last.

The news of his death spread rapidly through the town and caused a shock to every one who heard it. The deceased was very popular, and being held in universal esteem, and people were loath to believe that he was dead. All Sunday morning, crowds kept going to the residence on Taylor street to ascertain if the sad news were really true.

When the people became convinced of the sad reality, a general gloom pervaded the town.

In evidence of the public feeling, all the stores and business houses closed from 9 till 12 Monday morning and a large concourse of men, women and children assembled at 9:30 at the Methodist church to attend the funeral services and pay their respect to the memory of the deceased. The church was filled to overflowing and crowds stood outside.

The pall bearers were: Albert W. Gilchrist, J. H. Concanon, Clayton Porter, L. T. Bloxham, Frank Adams and R. L. Earnest.

The casket was covered and loaded with beautiful flowers. As it was borne into the church, it was preceded by Rev. H. W. Joiner who read the beautiful Scripture beginning, "I am the resurrection and the life."

The choir sang that exquisite hymn, "Asleep in Jesus," after which Rev. C. H. Ferran, of the Presbyterian church, read from Paul on the resurrection. Pastor Joiner then read an appropriate Scripture lesson and Rev. J. E. McIntosh, of the Baptist church, followed with a feeling prayer.

"Jesus, lover of my soul," was next sung, and then Pastor Joiner arose and proceeded to deliver an eloquent address on the life and character of the deceased. He took a Scripture theme from the 5th chapter of John and applied it personally to the merits of the honored dead, to the comfort of the bereaved kindred and to the instruction of all present.

Upon the conclusion of his remarks followed by a brief prayer, the choir sang, "God's children are gathering home," and then the corpse was borne out and placed in the hearse.

The cortege which then formed and proceeded to the cemetery was the largest ever seen in Punta Gorda.

With touching ceremonies the body was committed to mother earth and the sorrowing assemblage then slowly dispersed.

JAMES HENRY SWIFT was born in New Harmony, Ind., Aug. 14th, 1817. As he grew up, he became engaged in railroad work and lived at different times in Evansville and New Albany, Ind., Nashville, Tenn., and Louisville, Ky.

Meanwhile, on Jan. 31st, 1870, in Evansville, he married Miss Eliza Curlick, with whom he lived happily till the day of his death.

In 1892, he removed from Louisville to Punta Gorda, arriving here on Nov. 4th. He quickly won a place in public confidence, was twice chosen, as a member of the town council and then elected mayor. Last November he was again elected to the council and was a member of that body when died. In these positions he proved himself a patriotic, self-sacrificing citizen, keenly alive to the best interests of the town.

Thus both in public as well as in private life, he was a valuable man, an exemplary member of the community, one whose death leaves a void that is universally felt and deplored.

Besides his disconsolate widow, he leaves four children to mourn their irreparable loss: James L. Swift of Port Tampa; Mrs. W. A. Roberts, Magnus T. Swift and Miss Annie Swift, of this city. In these, he leaves to the community a valuable heritage of genuine worth which is generally and thoroughly appreciated.

His bereaved ones have the heartfelt sympathy of all our people, who pray that the Father of mercies may soothe their stricken hearts and comfort them in this hour of their sorrow and desolation.

## CARD OF THANKS.

To the people of Punta Gorda, we take this means of expressing our heartfelt gratitude for their noble kindness and blessed sympathy in the sad hour of our bereavement.

Should affliction ever befall them, the best prayer that we can make in their behalf is that they may find as generous friends and as sweet consolation as have been vouchsafed to us.

Mrs. J. H. SWIFT

AND CHILDREN.

RESOLUTIONS.

At a mass meeting of citizens held in the council chamber Tuesday night, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

Whereas, the late James H. Swift has been, during his long residence among us, an earnest, industrious and conscientious citizen of the town of Punta Gorda;—He was known as an honest and

honorable man, a kind husband and affectionate father, a law-abiding citizen. He was honored by his fellow citizens with positions of trust and honor,—Councilman, Mayor and at the time of his death, councilman;—

Therefore, be it resolved by the citizens of Punta Gorda in mass meeting assembled, that in the death of our esteemed fellow townsman, the community has suffered an irreparable loss;

That the sympathy of the entire community is extended to the members of his bereaved family;

That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of the deceased.

J. H. Concanon,

Francis K. Adams, Chairman.

Secretary.

## BY THE TOWN COUNCIL.

Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God in his wise providence, on Sunday morning, 20th inst., to take from us Mr. James H. Swift, a member of our council;

Therefore, be it resolved that we bow in humble submission to his divine will.

Resolved, that we have lost a faithful member who was ever ready to perform any duty incumbent on him.

Resolved, that we tender our condolence to the bereaved family and may God strengthen them in their bereavement.

Resolved, that we send a copy of these resolutions to the family, and a copy be furnished the PUNTA GORDA HERALD for publication.

Resolved, that these resolutions be spread on the minutes of our council.

R. L. Earnest,